





U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Sargent Permit Public Waterfowl Hunt Area

San Bernard National Wildlife Refuge

The Texas Mid-Coast National Wildlife Refuge Complex will accept applications for the public waterfowl hunts in the Sargent Unit of San Bernard NWR from September 17 until October 6. We must receive all applications during that period and will not accept any applications received before or after these dates.

Lottery Draw Information

If selected, we will allow you to hunt waterfowl on Saturday and the following Wednesday of the week for which you have been selected.

We will hold a public drawing at the Complex Office on October 13 at 9:00 a.m. You do not need to be present to be selected.

We will notify persons selected by mail within 10 days of the drawing with appropriate permits, regulations, and maps.

Applications must include a nonrefundable hunt fee payment of \$45.00. Payment must be made by Cashier's Check or Money Order. This fee enables the selected hunter to bring up to three additional hunters. We will make every effort to fill your week preference and hunt area requests.

Hunters may reserve and pay a fee on Friday before the hunt week starts for those blinds not drawn.

Please check our website following the draw to determine availability for open blinds. http://www.fws.gov/southwest/refuges/texas/texasmidcoast/recreation.htm.

Due to ease of access, we will give priority for Blind #1 to those with limited mobility issues.

We only accept one application per person.

You must be 18 years or older to apply for a permit.

We do not allow guests or observers in the blinds.

General Hunting Regulations

We allow hunting of ducks, geese and coots.

Safety must be the first consideration of each hunter. All shotguns must be unloaded and encased while in transit in a vehicle on the refuge. Shotguns must remain unloaded to and from the hunting blind. You may only possess shells containing non-toxic shot.

You must be legally licensed to hunt waterfowl before entering the hunt area.

Youth hunters, 17 years and younger, must be under the supervision of an adult 18 years or older while hunting on the refuge.

Your permit allows you and your hunt party to enter the refuge $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours before sunrise. You and your hunt party must depart the refuge no later than $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours after sunset. Please be courteous of other hunters as you enter and leave the hunt area at all times during the day.

It is your responsibility, as the Group Leader, to provide surveys for your hunt party.

You are required to stay within 100 yards of your assigned hunt area, 200 yards away from another hunt area, and cannot shoot across levees.

We prohibit:

- Possession of lead shot.
- Use or possession of alcoholic beverages while hunting on refuge lands/waters.
- Off road vehicle travel or ATV use on the refuge.
- Target shooting or target practice.
- Dog training—with or without the use of firearms.
- Retrieval of downed game from closed areas either by person on foot or by the use of retriever dogs.
- Hunting, shooting, or killing of wildlife species other than ducks, geese, and coots.
- Hunting from or use of Permanent blinds

Other Information

Hunting will be in accordance with all State and Federal regulations. The regulations stated in this document supplement the general regulations set forth in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, which govern activities on National Wildlife Refuges.

We require removal of decoys and portable blinds daily upon cessation of hunting. Each person in a hunt area must have a hunt permit in his/her possession. Hunt permits are not valid until filled out and signed by the hunter. By signing the permit, you acknowledge understanding and acceptance of the regulations for the Sargent Waterfowl Permit Hunt.

Depending on your hunt area location, you may be required to walk up to 1-1/2 miles to access the area. The trails are well marked, but a good flashlight is essential. Hip boots and mosquito spray are recommended.

We prohibit the use motorized vehicles, such as ATV's.

We encourage the use of retriever dogs, but dogs must be controlled at all times to avoid interference with other hunters. Dogs should remain on a leash to and from the hunt area due to the rattlesnakes inhabiting the levee trails. If you encounter a snake, please leave it alone unless it is in your immediate hunting area.

For Further Information

Texas Mid-Coast National Wildlife Refuge Complex 2547 CR 316 Brazoria, TX 77422 979/964/4011

Fax: 979/964/4021

http://www.fws.gov/southwest/refuges/texas/texasmidcoast/recreation.htm www.refugefriends.org

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